

A NEW GOBIOID SPECIES *CORYOGALOPS SUFENSIS*
FROM THE RED SEA
(PISCES, GOBIIDAE)

by

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Abstract. — A new species *Coryogalops sufensis* was found in the Red Sea. The new species is characterised by possessing free upper pectoral rays. D VI, I 10 ; A I 9 ; P 16-17 ; V I 5, fully separated ; LL 30-31 ; TR 8-9 ; Gill rakers 1+1+7. *C. sufensis* differs from the only congeneric species *C. anomolus* Smith 1958, by having free upper rays in the pectoral fin, less dorsal and anal rays and more scales along the body.

Keywords : Gobiidae, Red Sea, *Coryogalops sufensis* n. sp.

Résumé. — Une nouvelle espèce, *Coryogalops sufensis*, a été découverte dans la mer Rouge. Cette nouvelle espèce est caractérisée par la présence, aux nageoires pectorales, de rayons supérieurs libres. *C. sufensis* diffère de l'espèce congénérique *C. anomolus* Smith 1958, par ces rayons supérieurs libres, par un nombre moindre de rayons dorsaux et anaux, et davantage d'écailles le long du corps.

Mots-clés : Gobiidae, Mer Rouge, *Coryogalops sufensis* n. sp.

Introduction

The genus *Coryogalops* Smith 1958, hitherto included only one species, *C. anomolus* Smith 1958, which is known from the Western Indian Ocean. A study of specimens which were recently collected in small caves and holes in coral reefs around the Sinai peninsula, as well as examination of additional Red Sea material from the fish collections of the Tel Aviv University of Jerusalem, led to the conclu-

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sion that all these *Coryogalops* fishes belong to a new species *C. sufensis*, including those which were previously misidentified as *C. anomolus*.

Abbreviations used

A,D,P, = anal, dorsal, pectoral fins ; BD = body depth ; E = eye diameter ; GR = number of gill rakers on anterior gill arch ; HL = head length ; LL = number of scales along the body ; PreD = number of predorsal scales ; SA = snout anal fin distance ; SD1 = snout first dorsal fin distance ; SD2 = snout second dorsal fin distance ; SL = standard length ; TL = total length ; TR = number of transversal scale rows ; HUJ = fish collection of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem ; TAU = fish collection of Tel Aviv University. All measurements are given in mm.

Coryogalops sufensis new species

Figs. 1,2

Coryogalops anomolus - (Non *C. anomolus* Smith), Clark 1958, *Sea Fish Bull.*, (49) : 5

Material examined

Holotype : TAU 7156, Ras Gara (Gulf of Suez), TL 34.3 ; SL 27.8 ; Col : M. Goren, XI. 1977 ; 5 *paratypes* : HUJ 7557, 2 spec., Ras Sudar (Gulf of Suez), TL 43.5 - 48.0 ; SL 36.5 - 39.8 ; Col : HUJ staff, 1968 ; TAU 7157, 1 spec., Nabek (Gulf of Elat), TL 29.3, SL 25.2, Col : L. Fishelson, X. 1976 ; TAU 7158, 1 spec., Dahab (Gulf of Elat), TL 28.9, SL 24.2, Col : L. Fishelson, X. 1976 ; HUJ 4679, 1 spec., Nabek, TL 34.2, SL 27.7, Col : HUJ staff, 18.V. 1968.

Additional material : Gulf of Elat : TAU 7159, 1 spec., near Elat, TL 20.6, SL 24.0, Col : A. Avidor, X.1976 ; HUJ 8278 (part) 1 spec., Fjord (near Elat), TL 23.0, SL 18.9, Col : HUJ staff, 30.VIII.1976 ; TAU 7161, 1 spec., Wasset, TL 22.7, SL 18.3, Col : L. Fishelson, 8.X.1978 ; TAU 7160, 1 spec. Ras A Tantur, TL 27.5, SL 22.7, Col : L. Fishelson, 2.VIII.1969 ; HUJ 7585, 2 spec., Nabek, TL 31.8 - 36.0, SL 25.9 - 29.6, Col : HUJ staff, 2.XI.1969 ;

Gulf of Suez : TAU 1762, 1 spec., Abu Zneima, TL 20.0, SL 16.0, Col : L. Fishelson, 22.IX.1969 ;

Southern Red Sea : HUJ E62/443,6, 1 spec., Entedebir, TL 32.9, SL 27.7, Col : HUJ staff, 26.III.1962.

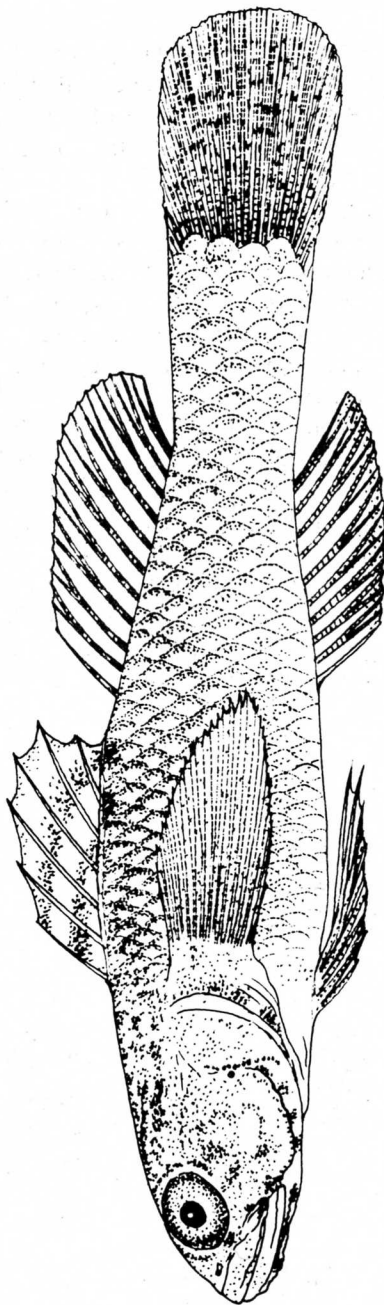


Fig. 1. — The holotype of *Coryogalops sufensis* new species, (total length 34,3 mm).

Description

D VI, I 10 ; A I 9 ; P 13-14 + 2-3 free rays - silklike ; V I 5 fully separated ; LL 30 - 31 ; TR - 9 ; Gill rakers 1 + 1 + 7, first gill slit open ; SL 81-86 % of TL ; HL 23-26% of TL and 27-31% of SL ; BD 12-15% of TL and 14-19% of SL ; SA 44-49% of TL and 54-60% of SL ; SD1 27-31% of TL and 32-35% of SL ; SD2 43-47% of TL and 52-56% of SL ; E 20-25% of HL.

Body elongate and compressed. Head subcylindrical with upper profile convex. Mouth small and oblique. Maxilla reaches to below the front of the eye.

Several rows of teeth on both jaws. The outer and inner teeth on the lower jaw and the outer teeth on the upper jaw enlarged. Tongue rounded. Gill opening restricted. Gill rakers short, 1 + 1 + 7. The posterior nostril, a pore, at the outer margin of the eye. The anterior nostril, in a tube, closer to the eye than to mouth. Several vertical rows of papillae below the eye.

Fins : Dorsal fins lower than body depth. Pectoral fins with upper rays free, silklike (Fig. 2), reach to below the second ray of the second dorsal fin. Pelvic fins, fully separated, reach almost to the anus. Caudal fin rounded, shorter than head. Scales : cycloid scales on abdomen, all the rest of the scales are ctenoid. The scales reach to the shoulders. Predorsal, head and preventral - naked.

Colour (preserved) : Body and head yellow. Dark blotches on back and head. A median line of dark spots along the body. A large dark blotch on body below anterior dorsal fin. Small dark points arranged in lines on dorsal, caudal and anal fins. Pectoral fins colourless. Pelvic fins dark to colourless.

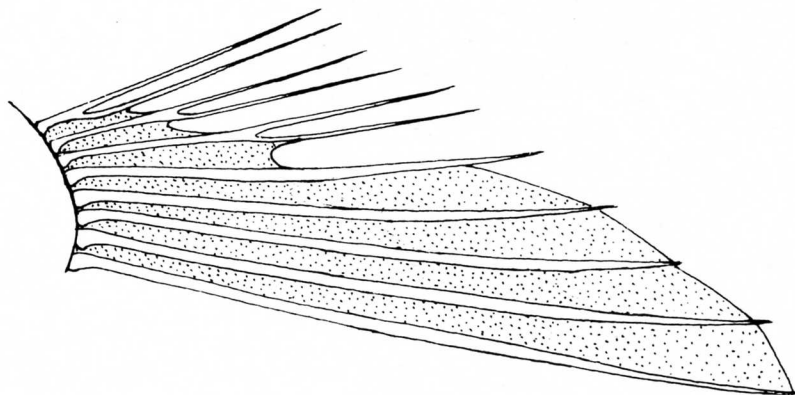


Fig. 2 – The upper pectoral rays of *Coryogalops sufensis*.

Remarks

Coryogalops sufensis is closely related to *C. anomolus* but differs in several characteristics as shown in the following table :

	<i>sufensis</i>	<i>anomolus</i>
dorsal rays	10	11
anal rays	9	10
free rays in pectoral fin	2-3	none
scales along the body	30-31	28
gill-rakers	1 + 1 + 7	2 + 1 + 6
tongue	rounded	subtruncate

Another closely related species is *Monishia anchialinae* (Klausewitz 1975), whose morphology and colouration (preserved) are very similar to those of *C. sufensis*. These two species differ from each other by the fully united pelvic fins of *M. anchialinae* and minor differences in the counts of scales and fins' rays.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Prof. Ben-Tuvia and Mr. Baranes (Hebrew University, Jerusalem) for providing material and to Mr. W. Ferguson for the drawings.

Etymology

The name *sufensis* is derived from one of the Hebraic names of the Red Sea : Yam Suf. (Yam = Sea, Suf = the marsh plants of the genus *Typha*).

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